

What is claimed:

1. A freezer having an enclosure and having a door moveable in a door frame for separating the interior of said freezer enclosure from the ambient, a heating element in one of said door and said door frame for preventing said door from becoming frozen to said frame, said heating element connectable to a power source, the improvement comprising

a switch having a open condition and a closed condition,

said switch between said heating element and said power source,

a sensor for sensing the humidity of said ambient, and

means responsive to said sensor for opening said switch when said sensor senses a humidity of said ambient that is below a given threshold and for closing said switch when said sensor senses a humidity that is above said threshold.

2. A freezer in accordance with claim 1 wherein said door is an ice dispensing door for dispensing ice outside said enclosure.

3. A freezer in accordance with claim 1 wherein said door is an access door to said freezer.

4. The method of controlling the energy drawn by a freezer having a freezer enclosure and having a door moveable in a doorframe for separating said enclosure from said ambient, said method comprising the steps of

providing a heating element in one of said door and said door frame for preventing said door from being frozen to said frame,
providing a power source for applying power to said heating element,
providing a sensor for sensing the humidity of the ambient, and
providing a controller between said power source and said heating element for controlling the power applied from said power source to said heating element in response to said humidity sensor, wherein power is applied to said heating element when said sensor senses a humidity above a given threshold and for terminating power to said heating element when said sensor senses a humidity below said threshold.

5. A freezer comprising in combination

an enclosure having an icemaker and an ice dispenser for dispensing ice outside said freezer enclosure,

a door moveable in a door frame in said enclosure through which ice from said ice dispenser is dispensed from said enclosure,

a heating element in one of said door and said door frame for preventing the freezing of said door to said frame,

a switch for controlling the application of power to said heating element,

a sensor for sensing a humidity of the ambient, and

means responsive to said sensor for connecting power to said heating element when said sensors sense a humidity above a given threshold and for discontinuing said power to said heating element when said sensor senses a humidity below said given threshold.